

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## *Pentecost Sunday 9th June page 294 of the Mass Book*

After Jesus ascends to heaven, St. Luke tells us in the Acts of the Apostles that the disciples gather, pray and wait for what Jesus has promised. Then it all happens on the Fiftieth Day! There is noise - a powerful wind from heaven filling the entire house. There are tongues of fire which settle on the head of each one. They speak in foreign languages about the marvels of God AND they are understood! The Promise of Jesus is his Spirit and the Spirit fills them with his presence. They are transformed! The Church is born as an active community which reaches out with the Good News of the marvels of God - surely the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, his Ascension to the glory of the Father's Right Hand and - now - the outpouring of pure Gift. Just as Our Lady conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit and gave birth to the Son of God, so now individuals who spent time with the Lord are moulded into a community which is Spirit-filled and cannot help but proclaim what they have heard and seen - with boldness and conviction.

For us this is such an important day, not a one-off feast but the completion of all we have celebrated since Easter Sunday. We too have spent time with the Lord. He has shared with us many experiences and offered words of hope and promise. NOW he pours out on us the Spirit to renew us and to renew the face of the earth. He needs our voices to announce Good News to others; he wants our lives confidently to live out this message; he empowers us so that our hearts may be aflame with love for God and our neighbour. **WE ARE TO BE CHURCH!** That's not easy all the time! As with the first Pentecost, people might misunderstand us or question our motivation. However, remember we are carrying out his will and his desire is that no one should miss out on the heralding of Good News. So why wait? There's a job to be done!

God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

**CAMINO** Fr. Norbert writes: The 40 or so pilgrims returned exhausted but elated from the 100km trek to Santiago de Compostela. Everyone made it including me! The terrain was challenging with steep climbs, stony obstacles and temperatures rising to 36C. Walking and talking, silence and the contemplation of the wonder of creation, mutual support and encouragement, the discovery of new things, places and people - these were some of the hallmarks of the Camino. Those who got there first formed a welcome party to shout, cheer and applaud the pilgrims as they arrived. I know for myself that I felt ecstatic completing the long journey and experiencing the huge sense of achievement. Of course, there were the blisters, the fatigue, the dehydration. However, I prayed for YOU each day and carried you all in my rucksack! For those interested, the Feast of St. James (25th July) falls in 2021 on a Sunday so the whole year is declared a Holy Year. The restoration of the huge Cathedral is preparing for that year of celebration. Perhaps you might want to walk then? The pilgrims will have a reunion on Saturday 20th July after 6pm Mass at Our Lady's.

**THY KINGDOM COME** There is a Beacon Celebration at St. Albans Cathedral today (9th) at 6.30pm to mark Pentecost Day and the conclusion of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer initiative. It will be an ecumenical service with many Christian Leaders. Everyone is invited.

**FIRST COMMUNIONS** Our Lady's today (9th) at 11.30am and St. Bonaventure's 16th June at 10.30am.

**CONFIRMATION** Congratulations to our young people confirmed by Bishop Paul McAleenan last Friday evening. We are very grateful to the catechists, musicians and singers and all who helped prepare for the celebration.

**MARRIAGE** Any couples who wish to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert.

**FINANCE COMMITTEES** Holy Family's on Wednesday 12th at 7.30pm and Our Lady's on Wednesday 17th July at 7.30pm.

**MONTHLY ADORATION** The next 'Restoration' Holy Hour will be on Friday 14th June at 7.30pm. The Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, reflections and silence. All are welcome.

**CHAPEL** at Our Lady's will have to remain closed while the new Parish Centre is being built. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused.

**POLISH-ENGLISH MASS** will be on Saturday 29th June at 6pm at Our Lady's. Serdecznie zapraszamy cala Polonie do udzialu w dorocznej Polsko-Angielskiej Mszy Sw, ktora odbedzie sie w Sobote, 29 Czerwca o godz 18:00 w kosciele Our Lady, Welwyn Garden City.

Po mszy sw, zachecamy do pozostania aby wspolnie swietowac poczucie wspolnoty. Zachecamy aby dolaczyc sie do wspolnej radosci oraz przyniesienia cos slodkiego do podzialu.

**FILIPINO MASS** Saturday 6th July at 6pm has been chosen for this celebration.

**AFRICAN MASS** The celebration for 2019 will be on Sunday 14th July at 11.30am

**DO YOU KNOW** anyone who would like to attend Mass but cannot manage the journey? We have experienced volunteer drivers willing to provide door to door transport. Please telephone Kay on 01707 335633 or Desi on 01707 371399.

**INTERFAITH MEETING** The inter faith evening meeting this month will take the form of a community walk around Stanborough Lakes. There will be 3 walks to choose from of differing lengths. Afterwards a light buffet will be served in the community hall at the lakes. Time 6 - 8pm on Wednesday 19th June. Do come and bring a friend. Leaflets available at the back of the church.

**FATHER'S DAY** is next Sunday (16th)...don't forget!

**SEMINARIAN** Dániel Vörös from the Diocese of Szombathely in western Hungary will spend a month with us this July improving his English and sharing in the life of our parishes. We look forward to welcoming him.

**DANCE CLUB** will be starting in the Woodhall Community Centre on Mondays 2 - 4pm (24th June will be the first session). For those who wish to join in the 'tea dance' price £5. However, pensioners, those in wheelchairs and those on their own who would like to come for a cup of tea and a chat would be welcome to come free of charge. The organiser is hoping one or two might be happy to make tea on a voluntary basis. If anyone is interested, contact Russell on 01707 264154.

**CANTERBURY OUTING** Canterbury Cathedral with Christian Churches of WGC this Saturday (15th). The coaches will set off from Herts International Church on the Mundells roundabout (AL7 1FT) at 8am (there is ample space for cars to be parked safely and securely). Please bring a packed lunch. The day will include a Prayer Service, guided tours, free time and end with Evensong. If anyone would like to come to Mass before setting off, Fr. Norbert will celebrate Mass in Our Lady's Church at 7am. No pressure!! There are a few places left on the third coach. Contact Fr. Norbert as soon as possible if you would like to go. (Cost is £20)

**ASSISI 2020** Brochures and booking forms are now available at the back of our churches. The pilgrimage will have Christians from WGC to mark the Centenary and will be from Sunday 24th May until Friday 29th May 2020. There will be limited places so if you are interested, please return your booking form to Pax Travel as soon as possible. If anyone needs an electronic version, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**DO YOU HAVE A MAN'S BICYCLE YOU NO LONGER NEED?** The gardener at St. Bonaventure's had his locked bike stolen from outside Sainsbury's last week. If you can help him please contact his mum on 01707 327284. Thank you.

**ST ALBANS** Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12noon. You are all welcome.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP** This group is in need of more people who would like to help with arranging the flowers. If you are interested or just want to know more then please phone Kathryn in the office on 01707 322579 or speak to her after Mass. You don't need to be an expert flower arranger!

**LIVE SIMPLY.** The Bishops of England and Wales have stated that humanity is facing an "unprecedented ecological crisis". They are asking us as a Church, as well as individuals' to become aware of the hazardous state of our 'Common Home'. We must be prepared to change our lives, step by step, to improve the health of the planet by **REDUCING-REUSING-RESTORING-RECYCLING** and **REPLENISHING**. Where do we start?

**FR. GEORGE FROM MALAWI** Fr George and his niece Ruth will be visiting the UK in August. They will be staying with Michael & Carol Cole from the 7th to the 14th of August. If any parishioner would like to entertain them could they please email Michael saying when and in what way they would like to entertain them so that Michael can put together an agenda. Michael's email is [michaeldcole@hotmail.com](mailto:michaeldcole@hotmail.com).

**Fr. Norbert 01707 323234**  
**welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk**  
Our Lady's Church  
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
St. Bonaventure's Church  
81 Parkway AL8 6J

**Fr. Tom 01707 327434**  
**welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk**  
Holy Family Church  
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

**CONFESSIONS**  
Holy Family: Thursday **10am**  
St. Bonaventure: Saturday **10.30am -11am**  
Our Lady's: Saturday **5pm -5.30pm.**

**Website for our 3 parishes**  
**www.wgc-catholics.org.uk**

**DO YOU NEED A CLEANER?** Then Phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770. One off cleans, regular or weekly, fortnightly, etc.

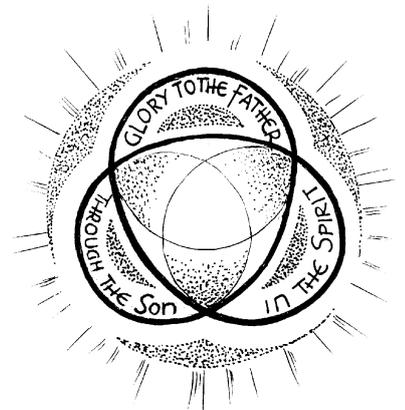
**NEED A MOBILE HAIRDRESSER?** Then call Tracey on 075812129417 for competitive rates. Husband James is also available for any property maintenance, rubbish clearance or house clearance with no job too big or too small. Contact James on 07572527731

**CAFOD** The CAFOD group at Holy Family are appealing for any unwanted gifts you might have for them to sell from their Table Top cupboard. All proceeds go to CAFOD.

### **MASS TIMES**

10 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	Blessed Virgin Mary
11 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Barnabas
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
12 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
13 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest
14 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
15 Saturday	7am	Mass	Our Lady's	
	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

<b>15 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
<b>16 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
	<b>9.30am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>10.30am</b>	Mass	Holy Family
	<b>11.30am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>	Our Lady's
			Holy Family



**CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS:** If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333** via text message: **07876 526935** email: **[chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net)**